


Remarks

Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement because in Examiner's opinion Claims 1-14 and 27-35 (Examiner's Group I) and Claims 15-26 (Examiner's Group II) are directed to independent and distinct invention. In response, Applicants elect the invention of Examiner's Group I (Claims 1-14 and 27-35) for further prosecution. In Applicant's opinion the restriction requirement is inappropriate. Nevertheless, to advance the examination of the application, consistent with this election, Applicant has cancelled Claims 15-26 directed to the non-elected invention of Examiner's Group I. This amendment is made without prejudice to any rights that Applicant may have including the right to file divisional applications directed to the unelected invention under 35 USC § 121. The total number of claims remaining in this application is 23 and the total number of independent claims is 2. These totals are less than the total claims and total independent claims paid for in the originally filed application. Accordingly, no fee is required for this amendment.

Examiner has also imposed an election of species requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 for prosecution on the merits of no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. In response, Applicant elects the species of Claim 34. Claims which are generic thereto or readable therein are Claims 1 to 14 and 27 to 35.

Respectfully Submitted,
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